



September 27, 2021

GSA-2021-000779

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ATTN: ALEXIS R. GRAVES  
DEPARTMENTAL FOIA OFFICER  
1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, SW  
ROOM 4104-S  
WASHINGTON, DC 20250-0706  
[usdafoia@usda.gov](mailto:usdafoia@usda.gov)

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Referral – Ms. Nancy Silverman

While processing your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, the General Services Administration (GSA) discovered records that originated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and referred those documents to USDA for final review and response back to the requester.

On August 19, 2021, we held a teleconference with Ms. Christine Jordan (Sr. FOIA Analyst and USDA attorney) and per our mutually agreed upon decision, we decided to change the consultation to a referral. This decision would facilitate a more effective way to handle the records containing USDA equities and respond directly to the requester.

Please find attached is a copy of the actual request. The request description is as follows:

“Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, I request access to and copies of the following records from the Federal Acquisition Service (“FAS”) and the Technology Transformation Services (“TTS”) divisions of the U.S. General Services Administration (“GSA”):

1) Copies of any and all records in the possession of FAS and TTS relating to the firm McKinsey & Company (“McKinsey”) for the period January 1, 2015 to the present. The term “records” includes the following:

(a) communications between any employee or partner of McKinsey and any employee of FAS and TTS including emails (email domain for

McKinsey ending in “@[mckinsey.com](mailto:mckinsey.com)”), letters, faxes, memoranda and any other type of written communication;

(b) any reports and memoranda prepared by McKinsey for FAS and TTS;

(c) any documents relating to contract bids submitted by McKinsey to FAS and TTS in response to a RFI (request for information) or a RFP (request for proposal);

(d) any documents relating to any contract awarded to McKinsey by GSA relating to FAS and TTS and all associated contract documents including but not limited to documents relating to McKinsey’s Contract Number GS-10F-0118S and McKinsey’s Schedule 70 Contract Number GS-35F-646GA;

(e) any documents relating to work performed under an award to McKinsey in 2018 to perform “IT Infrastructure Optimization” for TTS;

(f) any other internal communications or documents in the possession of FAS and TTS concerning or mentioning McKinsey. The terms “communications” and “documents” include reports, memoranda, emails, letters, faxes, notes or any other type of written communication or document.

2) Copies of all other FOIA requests received by FAS and TTS seeking documents and information pertaining to McKinsey, which mention or pertain to McKinsey, all other communications related to those requests, and all responsive materials provided by GSA to those requesters for the period January 1, 2015 to the present.”

The attached documents contain U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) equities your Agency’s projects/programs and McKinsey and Company’s assistance with these projects/programs. Please review making any additional redactions you deem appropriate and respond directly to the requester.

The contact information for the Ms. Christine Jordan is [christine.jordan@usda.gov](mailto:christine.jordan@usda.gov) or by phone at 571-669-4707.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Duane Fulton at 202-536-8144 or at [duane.fulton@gsa.gov](mailto:duane.fulton@gsa.gov).

Sincerely,

*Travis S. Lewis*

Travis Lewis

Program Manager  
Office of General Counsel  
General Services Administration

Enclosures